

FIRE ON TRAIN.

STRIKING MINERS KILL THREE AND WOUND ELEVEN.

Attack Made in a Cut, the Assaults Shooting from Behind Rocks Into Special of Non-Union Miners.

Three men were instantly killed and eleven injured, two of whom will probably die, when striking miners fired into a passenger train on the Birmingham Mineral Railroad at Blocton Ala., Sunday morning about 2 o'clock.

The dead: Conductor Joe T. Collins, O. Z. Dent, Deputy Sheriff, Willard Howell, non-union miner. The train was a special, bearing non-union men to the Blocton mines under guard of soldiers and deputies. On the outskirts of the town the engineer suddenly saw a log across the track and at once a fusillade was fired into the train. The engineer did not stop, but let the cow catcher throw the log from the track and put on full speed.

The place where the attack was made was in a cut, the ground being on the level with the lower part of the windows. The assailants behind the rocks above poured down a murderous fire directly into the windows and at the engineer. Practically every window in the train was broken, and shots struck all parts of the engine and cars.

The train proceeded to Blocton and the dead and injured were returned to Birmingham. Dogs were hurried to the scene and took trails through the woods directly to the union quarters. Eight negroes were arrested and other arrests are expected.

Governor Comer held a hurried conference with Lieut. Col. Hubbard commanding the militia, and another company was hurried to Blocton. All is reported quiet there.

The trouble has caused widespread indignation and a general demand is being made that more strenuous action be taken looking to the preservation of order. Governor Comer has not made a statement on the situation. While no disturbances have been reported in the district other than the Blocton affair, the situation is regarded as the most grave since the inauguration of the strike over a month ago.

TUNNEL COLLAPSED.

Two Men Killed and One Fatally Injured.

A dispatch from New York, says two men were crushed to death and a third so frightfully injured that he begged his rescuers to shoot him, in the collapse of a tunnel being built in the main building of St. John's orphan home, at St. Marks and Albany avenues Thursday.

The dead are: William McLaughlin, Thomas Roche. William Finlayson, the third man, was dying when he was finally taken from the huge pile of debris. The men were workmen employed in the tunnel construction. They were working together when the walls collapsed and they were buried. An alarm of fire was sent in and police and firemen began the work of rescue. Two bodies were quickly taken out and the upper part of Finlayson's body was uncovered.

With the lower part of his body crushed Finlayson moaned in terrible agony. "For God's sake shoot me and put me out of this agony," he cried to the men.

Ambulances were called from St. John's and St. Mary's hospitals. Finlayson as soon as he was gotten out, was hurried to the hospital.

TOO MUCH HARD CIDER.

White Man Kills Two Negroes Near Lynchburg.

Near Concord, 10 miles east of Lynchburg, Va., Monday night Jack Lee, white, shot and instantly killed Beverly Cardwell, colored, and mortally wounded his brother Samuel, who died Tuesday morning. The men, whites and blacks, were drinking hard cider and had a drunken misunderstanding. Lee was arrested.

FEUDISTS IN BIG FIGHT.

Two Men And a Woman Killed in Kentucky.

The bloodiest feudist battle in years took place at Layman, Horlin county, Ky., late Thursday afternoon. Three persons were killed, one being a woman, and one woman was wounded. The trouble dates back for generations between Blantons and Taylors. The immediate cause of the shooting was a dispute over a school election.

Arrested in New York

A dispatch from New York says a young man, who says he is John E. Messervy, 19 years old, of Charleston, S. C., and who declares his father is of sufficient importance in that vicinity to issue railway passes, is being detained by the police there on the charge of not paying a hotel bill. Before Messervy gets out of his scrape he may also have to face an indictment for forgery.

WILL GRATIFY AMBITION.

Edison To Give Himself a Moving Commission Into Science.

Thomas A. Edison has begun to gratify an ambition he has cherished many years, and the laboratory at Llewellyn, N. Y. will see comparatively little of him henceforth. Mr. Edison's ambition has been to give himself a roving commission into pure science and to steer clear of commercialism. He does not want to increase his fortune. He has got \$35,000,000, which he thinks is more than enough. All his life he has been turning out money making inventions. He will devote his remaining years to investigate anything that strikes his fancy without regard to its financial productiveness.

It is learned that the man who has achieved so many marvels in electricity has a greater love for chemistry than electricity. Chemistry was the first science to captivate his wonderful intellect but he has never had a chance to dig as deep into its mysteries as he wanted to. Now he proposes to give himself the chance. Moreover he is going to take life more easily.

He has promised his family and his friends to give up slaving night and day, Sundays and holidays in his laboratory. Not only that but he is going to take jaunts about and see something of the rest of the world. He has bought himself a place in Florida where he will spend a couple of months in the late winter and early spring next year.

Toward the end of this month he is going with his wife on a month's trip to the Pacific coast. He will stay more than a month if the fancy strikes him. Monday, instead of being in his laboratory, he was fun making with some friends down on Long Island where he went on Friday to spend three days.

TWO KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

Electric Bolt Plays Strange Pranks in New Jersey Home.

Two persons were killed and two others severely injured by lightning during a severe electrical storm that swept over Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey Friday, causing much havoc.

Robert Heimbach, a farmer, was struck and instantly killed, near the fields, and Walter Cattell, aged 17 years, was struck and killed, near Glassboro, N. J.

His sister, Mabel, and Rebecca Turner, were also struck and severely injured, the latter being in a serious condition. Cattell, his sister and Miss Turner were seated under a shed watching the lightning, when a bolt hit the peak of the shed, where they were sitting.

The lightning broke the legs of the chairs and rendered the trio unconscious. The charge passed down Cattell's back and he was dead when picked up. The shoes were ripped from the feet of his sister, but she recovered consciousness after a short time, and is seriously ill from the shock. One corner of the Cattell home was torn out of the building by the lightning. Buildings of all sort were struck in various sections and destroyed, and many districts suffered from flooding. Philadelphia, in connection with the storm, was pelted by one of the most severe falls of hail that has occurred in a number of years.

FOLLOWS BRYAN'S ACTION.

Taft Makes a Speech to a Phonograph to Have it Reproduced.

The use of a phonograph by Candidate Taft as a means for dissemination of his speeches, as reported in the dispatches from Hot Springs, Va., excited the liveliest interest of W. J. Bryan, so much so that he gave out the following statement in regard to it.

"The republican papers have been making fun of me for using the phonograph as a means of reaching the public, but since the republican candidate has followed my example I presume that the criticism will cease and that this will now be regarded as a dignified method of discussing public questions.

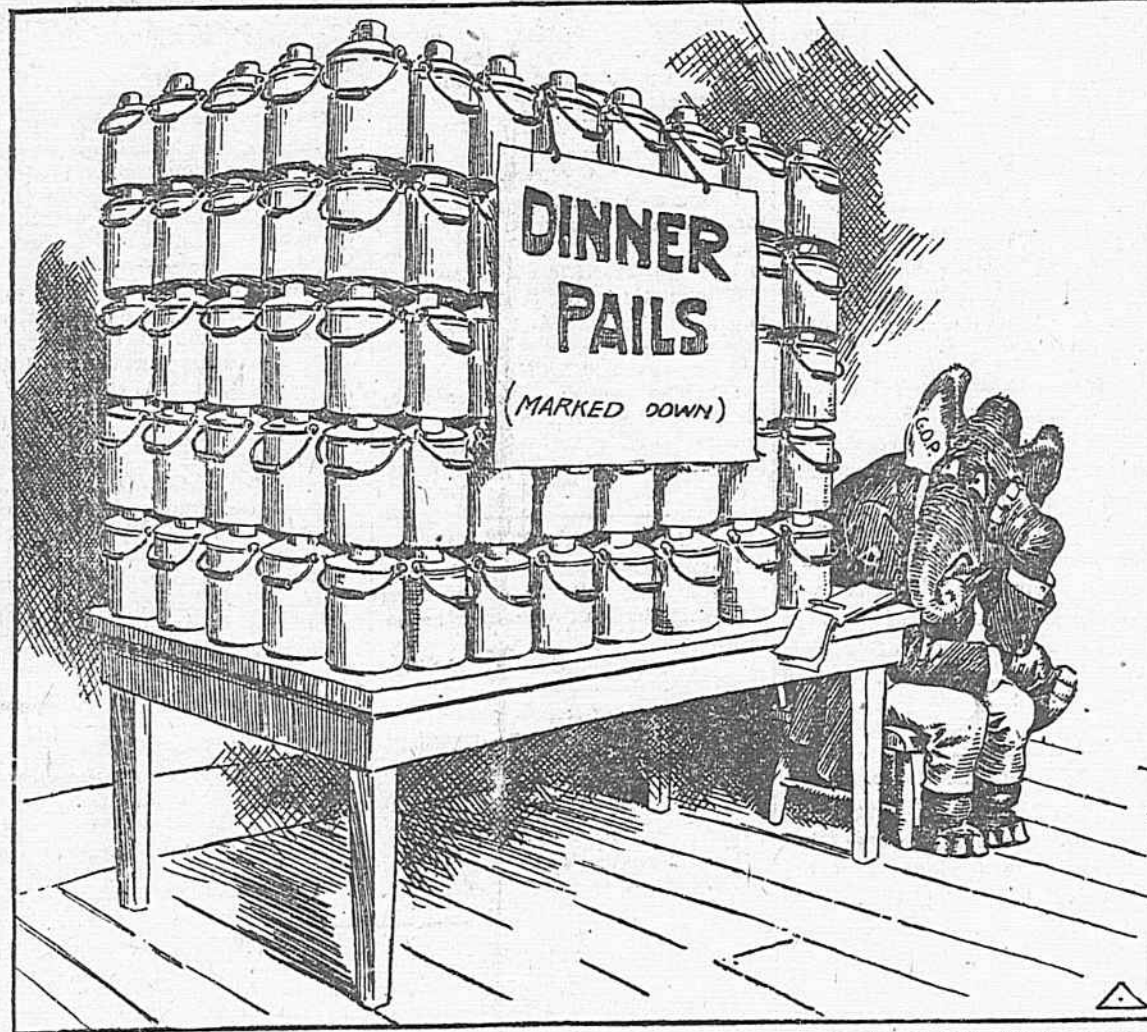
"It looks as if the democrats were going to have a hard time this year protecting their patents from infringement. The republicans seem to be bent upon imitating not only our platform, but our campaign methods. There is, however, some advantage in the fact that we are setting the pattern this year."

A SEVERE STORM.

Lightning Strikes Residences, Churches and Stuns Several People.

At Spartanburg, lightning struck four residences, two churches, and stunned several people during a severe electrical storm Wednesday afternoon. Three of the residences that were struck were badly damaged and one was set on fire. Silver Hill Methodist church was struck in three places, and the tower demolished. A small colored church on Charles street was set on fire by a bolt of lightning, and the fire department had to be called out to extinguish the flames.

THE TINWARE MARKET IS DULL.



—De Mar in Philadelphia Record.

REPORT OF CROP CONDITION.

Bureau of Statistics of Agricultural Department Issue Bulletin.

The crop reporting board of the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture in a bulletin issued Friday shows that the condition of corn on August 1 was 82.5 per cent. of a normal, as compared with 82.8 last month, 82.8 on Aug. 1, 1907, and 83.1, the 10-year average on August 1. The condition in the Southern States was:

	1908.	10-years.
Texas.....	78	78
Georgia.....	89	86
Kentucky.....	83	85
Tennessee.....	85	84
Alabama.....	87	84
North Carolina.....	91	87
Arkansas.....	79	83
Mississippi.....	86	80
South Atlantic.....	89	86.4

Preliminary returns indicate a yield of winter wheat of about 14.2 bushels per acre, or a total of 425,940,000 bushels, which compares with 14.6 bushels and 409,442,000 bushels, respectively, the final estimates of last year's crop. The average quality of the crop is 90.1 against 90.5 last year.

Average condition of spring wheat on August 1 was 80.7 per cent. of normal as compared with 80.4 a month ago, 79.4 on August 1, 1907, 80.9 on August 1, 1906, and 82.7, the 10-year average on August 1.

The condition of the oat crop on Aug. 1 was 76.7 per cent. of normal as compared with 85.7 last month, 75.6 on August 1, 1907, 82.7 on Aug. 1, 1906.

The proportion of the oats crop of last year in the hands of farmers on August 1 is estimated at 5.0 per cent. equivalent to 38,000,000 bushels, as compared with 7.1 per cent. and 68,000,000 bushels, respectively, the corresponding figures of a year ago.

The condition of rye of August 1, or at the time of harvesting, was 88.3 per cent. of a normal.

The average condition of tobacco on Aug. 1 was 85.8, a comparison with 82.3, the 10-year average. The condition of flax on August 1 was 86.1.

WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC CASES.

Constitutionality of Federal Law Involved in Appeal.

The constitutionality of the federal law prohibiting the importation of women from foreign countries for immoral purposes is involved in the cases of Alphonse and Eva Dufour, which were docketed last week, in the supreme court of the United States.

Six indictments were returned against each of them in the United States circuit sitting in Chicago on the charge of violating the importation law, and Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis refused to release them on writs of habeas corpus. They then appealed to the supreme court.

The maximum punishment is five years' imprisonment and a fine of \$5,000 in each case.

BARBER STABS WIFE.

Narrowly Escapes Being Lynched by Angry Mob.

At Burlington, N. J., angered and jealous because his wife wished to go for a walk, Adam Popiel, a barber, Thursday night stabbed the woman and in turn was almost lynched by an angry mob.

Suicide at Savannah.

Capt. D. G. Purse, prominent citizen, noted developer industrial writer and promoter, and having connections in New York, Pittsburgh and other centres, committed suicide at Savannah Thursday by shooting. No cause is given for the deed.

DEMOCRATS REGISTER.

An Urgent Appeal From State Chairman Willie Jones.

Gen. Willie Jones, Democratic State Chairman, Wednesday issued the following address: To the Democratic Voters of South Carolina:

Fellow Democrats: In view of the great indifference which seems to exist among the Democrats of this state as to registering under the new law requiring all voters to register this year, I feel it to be my duty as your chairman to address you in this public manner, and urge you to go to your county seats at once and register. There is no doubt about the fact that the negroes are registering in great numbers in some counties and if the Democrats do not register they cannot vote in the general election in November next, and some of our congressmen may be defeated. The electoral ticket of this state may also be endangered by the failure of the Democrats to register. The time expires September 1st, 1908, and after that it will be impossible to be registered. We have heard of late various threats that our representation in congress would be reduced by a Republican congress on account of electoral ticket and also for our connection. All indications now are that the next house of representatives will be very close, and the past history of the Republican party proves that that party will stop at nothing to count in a working majority.

Now, fellow Democrats, do not allow this serious charge to be made against you, but go immediately and register, and be prepared to roll up a big majority for the Democratic electoral ticket and also for our congressional nominees. The Democratic county chairman throughout the state are urged to earnestly request the Democrats in their respective counties to attend to this important matter at once and to use their best efforts to get them out immediately, as the time expires for registration September 1, 1908.

Very respectfully,

Willie Jones, Chairman.

ESCAPED FROM DOCTORS.

Thinking He is An Angel, Man Removes His Clothing.

A dispatch from Philadelphia, says on Saturday a man afflicted in a suit of summer underclothing jumped on a passenger street car, rode half a block and then ran into the crowded square at Twenty-seventh and Jefferson streets, where he took off the little clothing he had been wearing.

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, Mrs. Maggie Cummings and Mrs. Clara Mann, who were passing through the square, were pounced upon by the man, who threw his arms around them, declaring he was an angel.

It was learned by the policeman who took him in charge that he was Condon Vondron, 30 years old, who had escaped from his home while delirious from fever.

COW WRECKS A TRAIN.

Four Persons Killed in Accident on Texas Tram Road.

Four persons were killed and four others were injured, two probably fatally, when an engine on the tram road of the Livingston Lumber Company struck a cow and plunged into a deep ravine, near Livingston, Texas Friday.

The dead: Watson Scott, engineer; Fayette Rogers, fireman; Finis Peebles, Henry Young, colored. Brad Hickman and a young man named Clark, are perhaps fatally injured, while the negroes are less seriously injured.

CHARGED WITH MURDER.

True Bill Found Against Man For Crime Committed Years Ago.

Quite a sensation has been sprung in Saluda county by the solicitors handing out an indictment charging Pope B. Havird, white with murder and the grand jury's returning a true bill.

Some 10 years ago a negro named Tom Scurry, lying with Havird, very suddenly and mysteriously disappeared and he has never been seen or heard of since. Recently a rumor gained currency that Havird split Scurry's head open with an axe while they were splitting rails and covered the body with brush and dogs and burned it. This rumor coming to the ears of Solicitor Timmerman, he made an investigation, with the result that he was satisfied there was enough in the report to justify him in handing out an indictment for murder and the grand jury evidently thinks there is enough testimony to warrant a trial of the case.

A bench warrant has been issued for Havird and he is expected to be apprehended at once.

It seems that several now claim to have known of Havird's killing the negro at the time it was done, but they have kept it a secret all these years until recently, when there was a falling out among them and Havird and the parties who say they have known of the murder all the time began to whisper it first to one and then to another until the report gained general circulation.

The reason they assign for Havird's killing the negro is that Havird's barn was burned and he charged Scurry with firing it.

Havird is the young white man who was shot a few years ago by John Yarborough in such a manner that one of his arms had to be amputated.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Steamer Destroyed and Eight Loose Their Lives.

A dispatch from St. Paul, Minn., says a special to the Pioneer Press from Winnipeg, Man., says the steamer Premier, Captain Stevens, was burned to the water's edge at Warren's Landing, the northern end of Lake Winnipeg, on Thursday morning. Six passengers and two of the crew lost their lives. Piers and building in the vicinity were also destroyed. The fire started in the engine room of the hold during the night and spread with frightful rapidity, those who lost their lives either smothering or burning to death in their berths.

About 20 were sleeping on board when the fire broke out, on account of the lack of accommodations at the trading post. When the cry of fire was raised, those who escaped did so in scanty attire, by jumping overboard. They either swam ashore, or were taken out by boats.

HEADQUARTERS AT CHICAGO.

Chairman Mack to Open There.

Finance Committee.

The Democratic national headquarters opened for the season at the Auditorium Annex Wednesday, Chairman Mack, of the national committee, accompanied by Roger C. Sullivan, of Illinois, have arrived in Chicago.

Chairman Mack is expected to announce the membership of the finance committee and various subcommittees not yet appointed.

New Cotton Sold at Clio.

The first bale of new crop cotton was sold at Clio last Wednesday evening by Jeff D. Edons to the Sternberger Company. The bale weighed 544, graded strict middling and brought 16 3-8 cents. This cotton was planted about March 4.

MAD CAPTAIN A SUICIDE.

Schooner Reaches Savannah With Tale of Tragedy.

With the steward in charge and the crew of four men aboard the Schooner Frank A. Williams was towed into Savannah Wednesday bringing the story of the suicide at sea, and in a raging storm, of the vessel's mad captain, A. M. Guthrie. The steward, Louis Inphen, told the story. He said that Capt. Guthrie was on the deck when the schooner was off Cape Lookout. He saw the captain walk calmly to the rail, stand on it and dive overboard. Though efforts at rescue seemed fool's errand, the steward threw a rope, clenched his fists and held his head. The man in the water saw it, but under water in an effort to drown himself. The rope was thrown to him twice, but he refused it, and a big wave soon swept him from sight.

The story is unusual and adds another to the long list of tragedies off Cape Lookout. "He was insane," declared the steward. His eyes told it. We all knew it, and we persuaded him to give me charge of the vessel. We did not want to sail seas unknown to us in the care of a crazy man. I saw he was crazy as we left New York, but we came on and he seemed to go all wrong when the storm got so bad off Lookout light ship.

"We could not stop the captain when he suddenly decided to leave the ship. We were helpless without him, as none of us knew the waters we were in."

The steamer City of Augusta, from Boston for Savannah, found the schooner off the light ship and towed her to Savannah. The crew of the schooner watched the rescue of the crew of the schooner Schull, which was abandoned off Cape Lookout.

BALDWIN MAKES ASCENT.

His Dirigible Balloon Goes Five Miles, Making Complete Circle.

"We sighted the enemy." These words were shouted by Capt. Baldwin at Fort Myer Friday, says a dispatch from Washington, as he piloted his balloon to the ground after making a successful flight of nearly five miles in an effort to demonstrate the usefulness of an air ship in war time.

Rising from the ground like a monster bird of the air, slowly but buoyantly, at 6.21 o'clock Friday, evening, the aerial ship, built for the United States army, was headed into the westerly wind by Capt. Baldwin. A complete circle was described, the balloon rising gradually to a height of 200 feet. Again pointing to the west, and attaining at estimated speed of twelve miles an hour, the ship voyaged in a direct line for nearly two miles.

The trip was made with the wind, which was blowing at the rate of 7 miles an hour. The throttle was thrown open a little wider by Mr. Curtiss, who again operated the engine, and the ship flew along at a speed of eighteen or twenty miles an hour.

When the dirigible passed over the starting point it was about five hundred feet in the air. Bringing his ship against the wind, Capt. Baldwin made a landing much the same as pilots of water craft bring their vessels to the side of a dock.

SHOOTING ON STREET CAR.

Negro Passenger Refuses to Pay Fare and Row Results.

At Pensacola, Fla. Wednesday one man fatally wounded and another painfully injured, is the result of a fight between negroes and street railway employees on a Bay Shore car. Wm. Johnson, colored, was shot in the mouth and abdomen, while Chief Inspector McClung, of the street railway, suffered a painful wound in the hand. The negroes had had a picnic at Palmetto Beach, which lasted far into the night. A special car, with half a dozen trailers were bringing them back when one negro refused to pay his fare. A general fight followed between the eight or ten conductors and some of the negroes.

TICKET TAKER ARRESTED.

Southern Employee in Trouble for Drawing Pistol on Passenger

At Spartanburg, W. R. Lucas, ticket taker on Southern Train, was arrested Friday night when the train pulled into the station on the charge of drawing a pistol on one of the passengers. On the train from Greenville Friday afternoon about two hundred base ball fans were aboard returning to Spartanburg from the ball game in Greenville. Trouble arose about fares and a difficulty was narrowly averted. Lucas drew his pistol and when the train pulled into the station he was arrested by the police.

Rolls Down Embankment.

The work train on a narrow-gauge road running to the Rorer Iron Mines, two miles from Roanoke, Va., Friday left the rails and rolled down a high embankment on the mountain side. A number of men riding on the train were caught under the engine and cars. Three were killed and several more seriously injured. The dead: James Tyree, James Werts, John Brown.

CAT'S BITE FATAL.

LADY WHO WAS BITTEN MONTH AGO DIED IN AGONY.

Hydrophobia Developed and Woman Passed Away in Convulsions Haunted by Terrifying Vision.

Haunted during her late hours by a terrifying vision of the white cat that had attacked her a month before her death and inoculated her with the germs of hydrophobia, Mrs. Jane Trumbull, wife of a professional golf player, died Friday at her home in Baldwin, L. I., after, in her final lucid moments, settling her business with a deliberation and courage equal almost to that displayed by the late William H. Marsh, of Brooklyn, who died of rabies after twenty-four hours before the end.

The composure of Mrs. Trumbull in the face of the horror of her startling vision of the cat and the convulsions which grew more frequent and violent, as the final stages of the disease developed, was the more remarkable as opiates were not as in the case of Mr. Marsh, administered in sufficient quantities appreciably to ease her agony.

The horror of the situation was increased, to her husband and friends, by her repeated supplications to them to kill her. Strangely enough for several hours before her death she was conscious and calm. She directed the disposal of her effects and then kissed her husband farewell during these lucid intervals.

Mrs. Trumbull about a month ago, while alone and fondling a cat, which she had owned for years, was attacked by it. The animal leaped at her throat, missing it, and for a part of a second clung to the woman with its teeth buried in her nose. When Mrs. Trumbull had torn the animal away from her it raced through the cottage, slaving and snarling.

The woman drove the animal out doors finally and when her husband returned that evening told him what had happened. He assumed at once that the cat was mad, but did not tell Mrs. Trumbull, for fear of alarming her. Mr. Trumbull ran across the cat several days later and killed it. No symptoms of danger from the cat's bite developed until two weeks ago, when Mrs. Trumbull was stricken with nervous prostration. Just at dawn on Sunday last Mrs. Trumbull, who had been sleeping only fitfully, aroused her household with a scream. She became hysterical and gradually grew worse.

ELOPES WITH HEIRESS.

Chauffeur And Heiress Elope in Borrowed Auto.

A dispatch from Pittsburg, Pa., says Daniel Slattery, a young chauffeur of the East End district, who has been motoring for many rich families, on Monday eloped with Miss Madeline Zeigler, only daughter of Mrs. Margaret Zeigler, one of the rich East End society women, for whom Slattery had often driven an automobile.

Slattery and Miss Madeline, went in a hurry on finding that Mrs. Zeigler had employed detectives to look up his record. Mrs. Zeigler had two warrants issued for the chauffeur's arrest on charges which she asserts were trumped up, and when he met Miss Madeline in the afternoon, he told her of his troubles and suggested that they go immediately. He pushed Miss Zeigler into the first automobile he saw standing in the street and fled to West Virginia, where they were married. They returned the next day.

Eddie Ball, the bicycle rider, whose machine it was they had borrowed in the meantime, had a warrant issued, not knowing it was Slattery, who is his friend. On learning that it was an elopement of his friend, Ball had the warrant cancelled.

ENTIRE FAMILY KILLED.

North Carolina Farmer, His Wife and Son, Slain by Lightning.

A special to the Charlotte Observer from Sparta, Alleghany County, brings news of the death of an entire family at Edmonds, ten miles across the mountains from Sparta, on Friday by lightning. Frank Murphy, a farmer, and his wife and young son were in the field stacking rye when the storm came up. The trio ran for shelter, but were stricken down before they reached the house and presumably instantly killed. The bodies were found later by neighbors.

MAN STABS HIS WIFE.

Woman's Injuries Considered Serious Husband in Jail.

Tom Vick, a mill operative, is in the county jail at Greenville charged with stabbing his wife at their cottage in the suburbs of that place Friday afternoon. The woman's injuries are said to be serious, especially the wound in her side. Vick also plunged the blade in his wife's throat, the wound being about an inch deep. The affair seems to have been the outcome of a family row.